

WIMBLEDON



FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR
WIGAN ATHLETIC

SATURDAY 20th DECEMBER 1980

Kick off 3.00 pm

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE 30p





Wimbledon Football Club Ltd

Founded 1889
Durnsford Road Wimbledon
SW19 8HG
Telephone 01-946 6311/2/3

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At the time of writing we are still preparing for our F.A. Cup match with Swindon. By the time you read this of course our fate will be known. As I cannot write about that game I will take this opportunity to write about some of our youngsters who are unknown to you at the moment. It has taken us three years to attract talented youngsters to us in numbers. Our current crop of Under-15 players are in my opinion very nearly as strong as the group I left behind at Chelsea. I was looking at some old photographs recently and came across a photograph of a Chelsea Under-15 side which contained Mike Fillery, Gary Chivers, Michael Nutton, Colin Pates and Gary Johnson who have each played several games in the Second Division. All are local boys and now we have boys of the same calibre already signed for us. Two of them recently played in an England trial at Stamford Bridge and one of them, Andy Sayer, spent last weekend training with the last sixty boys chosen for England Schoolboys. He comes from Walton and chose to sign for Wimbledon even though he could have signed for a club in the higher Leagues. He is a very quick centre-forward with the happy habit of scoring goals. The other boy involved in the England trials was Shaun Priddle who lives just up the road. He also chose us in preference to other London clubs and is a skilful mid-field player. Playing up front with Andy Sayer is Michael Tupper, a tall, very fast striker from the Redhill area. After training with several London clubs he has also recently opted to sign for us. The goal-keeper is Michael Erlbach who also comes from Walton and he faces competition from Richard McGuinness who plays for Merton. The two central defenders are John Cobbold who also lives just down the road and Robert Crow-Mains another Walton boy. Paul Ellis is a fast left winger with all the qualities we enjoy in a winger and he comes from Chessington. Those are the members of the team who have signed for us so far. We have several others with the talent to break through. It is a well known fact in football that the boys who hit the headlines early do not always develop into the best players. Steve Wicks who is being tipped as a future England centre-half was a late choice as an Apprentice at Chelsea. The significant fact is that so many boys are choosing us as the club they would like to join and that is a fine tribute to Peter Prentice, Alan Gillett and Pat Dellar. I know several of you have followed Wimbledon for years and take great interest in the players coming through. Keep this programme and it will be interesting to look at it again in four years time to see if we were right and if several of the players pushing for first team places were with us in that Under-15 team. Of course we have youngsters older and younger. Most of our S.E. Counties side are still at school, and some will be Apprentices next year. Being in the London Area means we have fierce competition for support, but it also means we are in an area capable of producing good players. Whilst talking about youngsters it was encouraging to see that after quoting Gordon Milne last week talking about his youngsters they then went out and scored five against Watford. Ours have hit five and then seven recently, so there is no reason to assume that they are going to be ready to hand over their places to these up and coming starters. The future looks good but today we must concern ourselves with the present. Wigan, our visitors today have only been in the League for two years and have enjoyed a good second half to the season both times. We are both looking for a good second half this year and whatever our interest in the Cup we must put all those thoughts out of our mind and concentrate on maintaining our League results at home.

Plough Lane talk

The News and Views of the Yellow and Blues

It is our pleasure this afternoon to welcome back to Plough Lane, Wigan Athletic F.C. We would like to take this opportunity to wish them a pleasant day here and a Happy Christmas. We know it is not in the true Christmas spirit but we hope not to be giving any presents to them this afternoon.

Our visitors today are the Football League's newest recruits, having been elected in 1978 the year after we joined the League. The two clubs have only met twice in League fixtures, but we had three stern tussles with them before we both joined the Football League. The first two meetings were in the Northern League/Southern League Champions Cup in 1975/76 season. After losing 1-0 at Springfield Park on a rain-drenched night we won the 2nd Leg here at Plough Lane 2-0, after extra time. The Dons goals that evening were scored by Ian Cooke and Billy Holmes who got the winner. Our third meeting was in the F.A. Trophy here at Plough Lane in February, 1977 when the Dons were again successful, this time by 3-2. Billy Holmes was again amongst the goals, netting twice, whilst Billy Edwards got the other.

As we have also won our only League meeting here, Plough Lane cannot have very happy memories for our visitors. We do not intend to offend them but we hope they will take back happy memories of their visit today but no points.

DONS OUTLOOK

The December issue of "Dons Outlook" is still available around the ground and in the Club Shop.

The following is an extract from a letter which we have received from Aylesford Football Club Juniors whom we had the pleasure of entertaining here at our game against Northampton recently:-

"Our lads could not have been more warmly welcomed, or received such grand treatment had they been stars in their own right. Each one of them returned home with shining eyes and a tale to tell which is the envy of Aylesford. They had an experience which will live long in their memory.

The lads and their parents particularly remarked about "Bert Nolan" and the time and patience he gave so willingly. They also gave praise of your chairman and

fellow directors. To Dario Gradi and the team who gave us so freely of their time and attention, thank-you. You can be certain that a few more people will be following the Wimbledon results with interest and willing you to have success and a golden future in the game. I personally can't help thinking there can't be much wrong with football in this country, if there is, then perhaps more clubs should note and learn from you how to give something to the fans and supporters. I was totally impressed and, like the lads, enjoyed and relished every minute."

FIXTURES

A reminder that the Midweek League fixture against Aldershot, next Tuesday, 23rd December, has a 2.00 p.m. kick-off.

Make a note in your diary (a Wimbledon F.C. one we hope) of the following "Friendly" we have arranged with Edgware Town. It will be played at Edgware on Wednesday 14th January, 1981, kick-off 7.30 p.m.

TO TORQUAY ON BOXING DAY

There are still a few places left on the coaches to Torquay next Friday. Today is the last day to book and also the last day to pay your fare if you have already booked. Call at the Club Shop before you leave today and make sure of your place.

SEASONAL GREETINGS

The Club's Directors would like to take this opportunity to wish the players, the staff, paid and unpaid, and all of the supporters, a very Happy Christmas.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR (Up to and including 6th December, 1980)

	P	W	D	L	A	W	D	L	F	A	P	Ts
Southend	23	11	0	24	15	2	5	16	14	34		
Lincoln	23	8	3	13	7	6	2	3	11	6	33	
Mansfield	24	8	2	17	6	5	1	6	12	14	29	
Hartlepool	24	8	0	4	21	11	4	5	3	15	18	29
Aldershot	24	7	5	0	11	24	1	7	9	18	28	
Peterborough	23	6	4	2	21	13	4	3	4	17	15	27
Bradford City	23	5	5	2	17	12	4	3	4	13	14	26
Doncaster	24	7	2	3	17	10	4	2	6	10	19	26
Wimbledon	24	7	2	3	22	9	3	1	8	8	16	23
Torquay	24	7	1	4	21	12	3	2	7	9	19	23
Crewe	24	4	4	4	16	14	3	5	4	15	20	23
Northampton	23	7	1	3	22	12	3	2	7	12	28	23
Tranmere	23	8	1	2	24	8	1	3	8	9	25	22
Darlington	23	5	2	4	21	15	4	2	6	12	19	22
Rochdale	23	6	2	3	16	11	1	6	5	14	23	22
Stockport County	23	4	4	4	15	17	4	2	5	10	14	22
Bournemouth	24	5	4	3	12	9	3	2	7	8	17	22
York City	23	6	2	3	18	7	1	5	6	7	22	21
Wigan	23	7	3	2	18	9	1	2	8	5	22	21
Scunthorpe	23	3	5	3	17	15	2	5	8	15	20	
Port Vale	23	6	4	2	22	11	1	1	9	9	26	19
Bury	24	6	2	4	21	14	1	1	10	13	26	17
Halifax	24	4	1	7	15	19	14	7	9	20	15	
Hereford	23	3	6	3	14	11	0	3	8	3	25	15

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23. 8.80	Port Vale	Primary Boys Football League
26. 8.80	Sheffield Weds.	Golddigger Promotions
6. 9.80	Stockport Co.	Jimmy Rose
20. 9.80	Lincoln C.	Sid Cooke
30. 9.80	Mansfield Tn.	Dave Bishop
7.10.80	Southend Utd.	R.F. Balch
11.10.80	Hartlepool Utd.	Peter & Joyce Langford
25.10.80	York City	Wimbledon FC Supp. Club
28.10.80	Peterborough Utd.	Nescroft Engineering Ltd.
8.11.80	Northampton Town	Brian Chaplin
11.11.80	Aldershot	Jimmy Rose

22.11.80	Windsor & Eton	Hales Sports
6.12.80	Darlington	Mrs. W. Fuce
13.12.80	Swindon Town	Allday Computer Services Ltd.
20.12.80	Wigan Ath.	Jimmy Rose
27.12.80	Bournemouth	Southern Dampproofing
10. 1.81	Rochdale	Richard Faulkner
24. 1.81	Scunthorpe	Lever
7. 2.81	Crewe Alex.	Brian Hammond
21. 2.81	Halifax Tn.	Bill Unwin
7. 3.81	Tranmere Rov.	S. Carpenter
21. 3.81	Hereford Utd.	Claude Pinney
4. 4.81	Doncaster Rovers	Jimmy Rose
20. 4.81	Torquay Utd.	Grace Unwin
2. 5.81	Bury	Garratt Lane Autos

WHO'S KITTING WHO?

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MICHAEL BELFIELD	LARRY CAMPBELL				
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PAUL DENNY	EPSOM BUSINESS EQUIPMENT				
WALLY DOWNES	SIMON BALCH		POLLARDS HILL U'14s		GAVIN FOTHERINGHAM
DAVID HUBBICK	WIMBLEDON F.C. SUPPORTERS CLUB				JOANNE FOTHERINGHAM
MARK DZIADULEWICZ	SOUTHERN DAMPPROOFING				JOANNE GAVIN
PAUL FISHENDEN	BERNIE COLEMAN				MR & MRS A & F GEDDIS
KEVIN GAGE	JIMMY ROSE (HORSESHOE INN) S.E.1.				
STEVE GALLIERS	PRIMARY BOYS FOOTBALL LEAGUE				
RAY GODDARD	ROBERT DUNLEY				
KEITH HIDER	ERIC GUSH				RAYNES PARK ROVERS F.C.
GLYN HODGES	D. MILLER	POLLARDS HILL U'14s		D. MILLER	No. 1 FAN
STEVE JONES	LEEDS PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY, WIMBLEDON				
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STEVE KETTERIDGE	BRIAN HAMMOND	CHERRY RED RECORDS LTD/NEON MUSIC LTD			MARTIN CRUMP
JOHN LESLIE	KRYSTAL KLEAR INDUSTRIAL SERVICES LTD.				
MARK MORRIS	JIMMY ROSE (PLUME OF FEATHERS)				
STEVE PERKINS	RICHARD FAULKNER				MARTIN HOOPER
MICK SMITH	M.E.T. CONSTRUCTION LTD.				
TERRY EMMS	RON NOADES				D. D. MURPHY
RAY GODDARD	GLOVES £40. — ALLDAY COMPUTER SERVICES LTD				

BRIAN ALEXANDER

of the South London Press

WRITING any kind of commentary, story or factual feature is always made easier when the author or authoress has first hand knowledge and experience about the subject.

Now that I have covered myself for my choice of subject, I would like to give an insight into what it has been like reporting on the recent events at Crystal Palace — a club which enjoys considerable television time and radio attention. Malcolm Allison, the 53-year-old new manager at Selhurst Park is one of those so-called characters. He carries great charisma and has the knack of providing some of the best "quotable quotes" in the British game — that is when we can get hold of him and when we are alert enough to prompt more that "yes" and "no" answers to our questions.

But Allison's shock arrival for a second spell at Palace is just the last of a series of explosive happenings at the limping First Division set-up.

Back on October 16, I struck lucky and was at Palace's Mitcham training ground to witness the extraordinary departure of Allan Harris and George Graham, two of Terry Venables' previous right-hand men, who decided to follow Venables to Queen's Park Rangers. My visit looked as though it would be fruitless when I arrived to find only Graham and the then reserve team manager Ernie Walley coaching the players. It was Harris I needed to contact to confirm or bury speculation that Venables' departure was just the start of a major re-shuffle.

Fifteen minutes later, Harris arrived looking like a City stock broker in suit and tie which didn't have that C and A look about it. Harris went straight to the training room to chat with Graham and chief scout Arnie Warren. Within minutes, chairman Ray Bloye was chauffeured to the parking lot in a red jaguar and called Harris, Graham and Warren in for a conference.

The outcome? Harris strolled out, took one last look at the ground and climbed into his car. "I'm choked," he told me. "I don't like the way things have been handled with Terry leaving. I have no option but to leave." Graham left in similar style five minutes later and when I collared Bloye, I discovered to my amazement that Walley had been installed as caretaker manager. That was it — all over! At that time, Bloye insisted that Allison was not on his short-list of men to take over the permanent helm of Selhurst Park. For the next few weeks Walley stood firm, dropped £1 million Clive Allen, much to the horror of his agent, and winger Vince Hilaire and made a bright start. He even pinned up a warning to the players that a £25 fine would be imposed if any squad member was forced to miss a game through injury because he

wasn't wearing shin pads. Walley was from the old school — half his players were teenagers!

Venables quit because of what Bloye described as a "Board-room misunderstanding." Clearly, Venables, who succeeded Allison four-and-a-half years ago, felt he was being personally blamed for the club's alarming start to the season.

When Watford's Graham Taylor and then Howard Kendall of Blackburn refused Bloye's offer of the Palace managership, Walley was told, "You've got the job until the end of the season." And deputy chairman Dick Varey was bold enough to admit, "Ernie, who we regard as a loyal worker, will have the job permanently if we win our remaining 31 matches." Well, that was impossible wasn't it. Walley's tough tactics — "I want a team who can give more than 100 per cent" — weren't to last long — only seven weeks in fact.

Three weeks ago, Palace met Manchester City. The press were waiting to get a comment on the game from Walley. Discussion was at a fever pitch. "They need a bloody miracle to get them out of trouble," said one journalist. The conversation was cut dead when Allison, wearing a grey suit, strolled into the press room and quickly into the radio commentary box for an interview. There followed a weekend of speculation and rumour with Allison giving his explanation for his impromptu appearance. "Since leaving Manchester City I haven't watched any games because it's so much aggro. People ask me what I'm doing at a certain match. Some pat me on the back and some spit at me."

By Sunday night, Allison was told that the Palace board wished to see him on the following night. A meeting was scheduled for Monday evening at the RAC Club in Epsom. For me, it was a nightmare. My press deadline was 4.00 p.m. and by that time, Bloye had told me, "Malcolm, who is a very good friend of mine, will be joining us as joint-manager working with Ernie Walley."

Remembering Allison's past, it was difficult to imagine that Allison would share the top job, so I took the plunge and predicted that at the meeting, Allison would ask for the full managership or nothing. I struck lucky again!

The ensuing press conference at the visitor's Lounge at Selhurst Park on Tuesday lunchtime, was a strange affair. Strange in that Allison was not the big, booming and boastful character I had imagined. Dressed casually in a grey track suit, Allison spoke methodically, casually yet firmly of how he was going to lift Palace away from the relegation zone and why he was coming back after a disastrous last spell. In his last period at Palace, the club plummeted from the First to the Third Division. But, as Allison is quick to point out, the drop from the First was almost inevitable. They had seven games left under his command — five of them away from home.

Despite the headaches, Palace have been a journalist's dream over the past two months. I just hope that Allison will be a dream cure for Crystal Palace.



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THE RESERVES

WIMBLEDON 2 BRENTFORD 4

Tuesday, 9th December, 1980

Midweek League

WIMBLEDON: Goddard, Bassett, Kempton, Downes, Morris, Emms, Hodges, Davies, Fishenden, Dziadulewicz, Joseph, Subs: Belfield, Hider.

Goalscorers: Joseph, Belfield.

The evening papers had reported that this game was being used by Brentford as a "shop window" for several of their players who are available for transfer. The side included eight regular first teamers. On the first half display by both teams very few would have interested any club.

In the first half Brentford did most of the attacking and had several chances to score. They either failed to get the ball on target or else hit the goal framework. Thankfully, after 45 minutes of inept football the referee blew for half-time.

It was a very exciting game in the second half. Brentford went ahead in the 46th minute and went further ahead when after a good passing movement Stewart scored. On the hour they made it 3-0 when McWilliam scored with a half hit shot that got a deflection and then hit a post and trickled in. Dons hit back within a minute when Joseph headed home a Downes corner. Then Micky Belfield thundered home a volley from Dave Bassett's centre, to make it 2-3. A few minutes later and Bassett went close with a fierce drive. With only a few minutes left Roberts beat Goddard by the near post to make it 4-2 to Brentford.

RESERVE TEAM GOALSCORERS

MARK DZIADULEWICZ	3
DAVID HUBBICK	2
PAUL FISHENDEN	2
WALLY DOWNES	1
STEVE JONES	1
FRANCIS JOSEPH	1
MICKY BELFIELD	1
KEITH HIDER	1
GARY WATERMAN	1

MIDWEEK LEAGUE TABLE

(Up to and including 18th November, 1980)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Watford	9	4	5	0	16	8	13
Portsmouth	10	6	1	3	12	10	13
Brighton	10	5	2	3	20	14	12
Gillingham	12	4	4	4	26	23	12
Peterborough Utd.	9	4	3	2	21	17	11
Southend Utd.	8	4	2	2	15	13	10
Brentford	12	4	2	6	21	20	10
Northampton Town	10	4	2	4	13	18	10
Millwall	10	3	3	4	12	14	9
Aldershot	9	3	2	4	12	20	8
Charlton Athletic	8	3	1	4	18	18	7
Wimbledon	8	2	1	5	11	14	5
Cambridge Utd.	9	2	0	7	7	15	4

DONS GOALSCORERS 1980/81

	Lge	Cup
ALAN CORK	11	2
JOHN LESLIE	7	4
DAVID HUBBICK	2	3
TOMMY CUNNINGHAM	2	2
WALLY DOWNES	1	1
PHIL DRIVER	2	0
MICK SMITH	0	2
PAUL DENNY	0	2
STEVE GALLIERS	1	0
GLYN HODGES	1	0
FRANCIS JOSEPH	1	0
STEVE KETTERIDGE	1	0
"OWN GOALS"	1	0

INTRODUCING MARK MORRIS



Mark Morris joined the club as an apprentice and on his 18th birthday last September, signed full-time professional forms for Wimbledon. Mark who is 6'1" tall, is a local boy having been born in Morden on the 26th September 1962. He attended junior school in Cheam and played football as a centre forward for his school team. He became the school's leading goalscorer, a feat which earned him a place at centre-forward for Sutton & District schools.

At his next school, Sutton Manor Senior, he again won himself a place in the school team, at centre-forward.

At about this time he joined Highview who play in the Shirley & District League, on Sundays, but for them he played centre-half. Highview's greatest rivals were Mitcham Royals and in Mark's first year with them, Highview lost to the Royals, in whose team were Glyn Hodges, Gary Waterman, Mark Wright.

In the next few years Highview were the top team. To revert to Mark's school football, he was selected to play for Surrey Under-15's — as a centre half and whilst still only 16 years of age he played for Surrey Under-19's team. Shortly after that he signed as an apprentice for Wimbledon. Last season he was captain of the successful Wimbledon Youth team, which won the South East Counties Division 2 League Cup, were runners-up in the League and reached the Fourth Round of the F.A. Youth Cup.

A quiet self-effacing young man, Mark, who turns the scales at 12 stone 7 lbs., lives in Morden with his parents.

WELCOME TO



Formed: 1932

Ground: Springfield Park
(Capacity 30,000)

Manager: Ian M. McNeill

Honours:

Northern Premier League
Champions 1970-71, 1974-75
Northern Premier Cup Winners
1971-72

Northern Premier Shield
Winners 1972-73, 1973-74,
1975-76

Cheshire League Champions
1933-34, 1934-35, 1935-36,
1965-66

Lancashire Combination
Champions 1947-48, 1950-51
1952-53, 1953-54

Record Victory:

4-1 v Bradford C., Division 4
Sept. 29th, 1979
4-1 v Darlington, Division 4
Nov. 3rd, 1979 and
4-1 v Scunthorpe U. Div. 4
Nov. 17th, 1979

Record Defeat:

0-4 v Huddersfield T., Div. 4
Oct. 9th, 1979 and
0-4 v Lincoln C., Div. 4,
Feb. 29th, 1980

Record Transfer Fee Received:
£135,000 from Sunderland
for Joe Hinnigan, Feb. 1980

Club Nickname:
The Latics

WIGAN'S FIRST STROKE OF MISFORTUNE

by Tony Pullett

Until a recent run of adverse results sent Wigan tumbling down among the re-election strugglers, they could claim to be the only club in the Football League never to have suffered a bad season!

With two highly successful League seasons behind them, manager Ian McNeill was hoping his side might have finished in one of the top four positions this season and so succeed where they had marginally failed over the past two seasons. Sadly, that seems unlikely now.

Wigan finished sixth in each of their two seasons in the competition, with an almost identical record:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Pos.
1978/79	46	21	13	12	63	48	55	6th
1979/80	46	21	13	12	76	61	55	6th

Like most newly-elected clubs, Wigan made a slow start to their League programme in August 1978. Then they made a phenomenal rise up the table and were decidedly unlucky not to clinch promotion at the first attempt.

In the end they were hit by nerves and managed only one win in their closing eight matches. But there were some folk at Springfield Park who felt it was probably better to make more gradual progress.

Mr. McNeill had himself been planning the future carefully for a long while and is continually adding to his playing staff to improve the depth of talent available to him. Last season he paid a £30,000 club record fee to sign centre-back Colin Methven from East Fife and during the last close-season he added three more Scots to his squad — midfield players Bobby Hutchinson (Hibernian) and Jim Oliver (Montrose), plus forward Lawrence Tierney.

Another new arrival this season was Liverpool's reserve defender Brian Kettle. Wigan have proved to be traditionally slow starters since they came into the Football League so they have not quite lost hope, even now, of making one of their characteristic revivals to join in the promotion race.

Wigan Athletic are the second club to play League soccer at Springfield Park. There was a club called Wigan Borough who became one of the founder members of the Football League Third Division (North) in 1921. They met with varying degrees of success and their highest position was fourth in 1928/29. They were never forced to apply for re-election.

Tragedy struck the club in 1931 in the form of a financial crash and, in October of that year, they were forced to resign from the Football League, leaving their fixtures unfinished.

The club went into liquidation and in 1932 the present club was founded and not long after that made the first of multifarious applications for admission to the Football League. They almost made it in 1951 when they tied with Workington on the first ballot. But they were beaten in a subsequent vote. In spite of putting in their annual application, they never again made too much impression until their claim was eventually recognized in 1978 when they were voted in to replace hapless Southport.

Wigan have more than proved their right to League soccer, both on the field and in the manner of their support. In spite of poor results this season, they are still one of the best-supported sides in the Fourth Division.

BOB WARD (Goalkeeper) Bob turned professional for West Bromwich in 1973 and made occasional appearances in the Throstles' League eleven. He moved on to Blackpool in 1977 and signed for Wigan two years later.

DAVE FRETWELL (Defender) Dave made his League bow for Bradford City in 1970/71 but then had to wait two more years before getting a further chance. He went on to make more than 250 League appearances for the Valley Parade club before moving to Wigan in 1978. He was ever-present last season.

DAVE McMULLEN (Defender) Dave developed in the junior sides at Springfield Park and was eased into the League eleven last season when he was called on twice as substitute. This season he has appeared both in midfield and in defence.

BRIAN KETTLE (Defender) Brian spent many years with Liverpool and made his First Division bow for the Reds in 1975/76. His chances at Anfield, however, were very rare so when he was invited to join Wigan this season he was happy to make a fresh start.

OUR VISITORS



*Back Row (left to right): Tony Quinn, Mike Quinn, George McAllister, Lawrence Tierney, Jeff Wright, Paul Hendry, David Tait.
Middle Row (left to right): Ian Gillibrand (coach), George Urquhart, Jim Oliver, Neil Davids, John Brown, Bob Ward, Colin Methven, Peter Houghton, Frank Corrigan, Ken Banks (Trainer/Coach).
Front Row (left to right): Maurice Whittle, Mark Wignall, John Curtis, Tommy Gore, Ian McNeill (Manager), Dave McMullan, Bob Hutchinson, David Glenn and Dave Fretwell.*

COLIN METHVEN (Defender) When Wigan signed Colin from East Fife last season the £30,000 fee was a club record. Colin made his first appearances in the East Fife team in 1975 and was ever-present for three successive seasons before his transfer.

JOHN CURTIS (Defender) John was a Blackpool first-teamer for four seasons, moving on to Blackburn Rovers in 1978. After a brief loan period with Wigan, he signed for that club on a permanent basis in 1979.

NEIL DAVIDS (Defender) Neil is a former England youth international who started out with Leeds United. He didn't get into their League eleven and was transferred to Norwich in 1975. He moved on to Swansea in 1977 and Wigan signed him in 1978.

BOBBY HUTCHINSON (Midfield) Bobby was signed from Hibernian during the recent close-season. It was with Dundee that he first played Scottish League soccer in 1974 and he became a consistent goalscorer for them. He was transferred to Hibernian in 1977.

FRANK CORRIGAN (Midfield) Frank's road to success in League soccer was a strange one for he was rejected by Blackpool in 1973 without getting a chance in their senior side. He got only one solitary outing in Walsall's League team and then decided to go non-League. He was with Northwich Victoria before joining Wigan in 1978.

GEORGE URQUHART (Midfield) George was with Motherwell as a youngster but he drifted into non-League football with Ross County until Wigan signed him during the 1979 close-season.

TONY QUINN (Forward) Tony made a sensational start to his League career last season by scoring in each of his first five full League appearances. He eventually finished up with a tally of 10 goals. As a youngster he was attached to both Everton and Liverpool.

MIKE QUINN (Forward) Mike scored on his League debut against Halifax last April and in recent weeks he has been holding a regular place in the Wigan attack.

PETER HOUGHTON (Forward) Peter has been Wigan's top scorer for the past two seasons, hitting 14

goals in 1978/79 and 16 last season. At one point of last season he was poised to join Portsmouth but that deal fell through. Peter joined Wigan from South Liverpool in 1977.

JEFF WRIGHT (Forward) Jeff was ever-present in Wigan's first campaign in the Football League in 1978/79 and he maintained an unbroken sequence until missing his first game against Bradford City last month. That gave him an unbroken run of 110 League appearances for the club.

MAURICE WHITTLE (Forward) Maurice made his League debut for Blackburn Rovers in 1968/69 but he was transferred to Oldham at the end of that season. He became a fixture in the Latics' first-team for eight years before initially joining Wigan from Barrow before returning to Wigan at the beginning of last season.

TODAY'S REFEREE

ALAN GUNN (Burgess Hill, Sussex)

From refereeing in local Sussex leagues and the Sussex County League has progressed via the Football Combination to the Football League line and later, the referees list. Has officiated in three Sussex County F.A. Senior Finals, and was linesman at the England v Scotland Youth Amateur International in 1974. He refereed the F.A. Vase Semi-Final in 1976, and Linesman France v Brazil in 1978.



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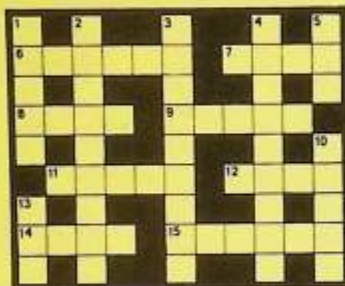
Right: John Leslie fights for possession with Darlington's Harry Wilson.

Below: Steve Jones clears the ball, after Dave Beasant saves against Darlington.

Photos: Paul Willatts



Plough Lane Posers



Across

6. See 15ac.
7. The beast in the badge of Millwall (4)
8. Nickname of Wimbledon (4)
- 9 & 5dn. What old League club Glossop and present-day Preston nominally have in common (5,3)
11. Belgium's keeper in recent seasons, Jean-Marie —, featured well in the 1980 European Championship finals (5)
12. Bradshaw or Barron (4)
14. Manager who brought Grimsby into Division Two (4)
- 15 & 6ac. Manager who switched from being Shrewsbury's number one to being Wolves' number two (6,6)

Down

1. The first word of the hymn traditionally sung before the FA Cup Final (5)
2. Division Three club which has appeared in all four divisions since the war (9)
- 4 & 3. The 1980 winners of the UEFA Cup (9,9)
5. See 9ac.
- 13 & 10. Nickname of the club with which Jimmy Hill has had a close association over the last twenty years (his first years as a player having been with 2dn) (3,5)

Answers on Facts and Figures page

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT PLOUGH LANE

SUNDAY NIGHT JAZZ AT NELSONS

Sunday, 21st December. 8.00 p.m.

GUEST ARTIST — JIM LAWLESS (VIBES)
With

The Danny Sandidge Trio
(Neil Cameron — Bass)
(Art Morgan — Drums)

Admission to Members 50p
Membership £1.00 per annum

Wednesday, 24th December. 8.00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE PARTY DISCO

(DJ's — Mike Ritson & Terry Davis)

8.00 p.m. till Midnight
Arrive before 9.30 p.m. for your free single

Admission Ticket only — £3.00

FIRDAY NIGHT IS DISCO NIGHT

Admission £1.50 8.00 p.m.

Wednesday, 31st December, 1980 NEW YEARS EVE DANCE CABARET, COMPERE, BAND

Tickets £12.50 (inc. Buffet and All your drink)
9.00 p.m. — 1.30 a.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

WIMBLEDON NEWS

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PHONE MICK MILES
ON
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Friday, 26th December 1980

TORQUAY UNITED

*Coaches depart 9.00 am. Return about
10.00 pm
Fare £6.50*

**GOING
AWAY**

Saturday, 3rd January 1981
PETERBOROUGH UTD.

Train departs Kings Cross 12.05
Train arrives Peterborough 13.11
Train departs Peterborough 17.15 or 17.48
Train arrives Kings Cross 18.07 or 18.55

Fare — Members £5.00, Children £2.50
Non-Members £5.50, Children £2.75
Subject to F.A. Cup results.

DONS FACTS AND FIG

[illegible]

Football League Cup

Aug.	9	Aldershot	0-2	3023	Goddard	Jones	Armstrong	Galliers	Smith	Cunningham	Ketteridge	Dow
	12	Aldershot	4-1	2444	Goddard	Jones	Armstrong	Galliers	Smith	Cunningham	Ketteridge	Dow
	26	Sheffield Wednesday	2-1	3549	Goddard	Brown	Perkins	Galliers	Smith	Cunningham	Davies	Dow
Sept.	2	Sheffield Wednesday	1-3	15151	Goddard	Brown	Perkins	Galliers	Smith	Cunningham	Davies	Dow

FA Cup

[illegible]

Football League Division Four
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

TEAMS

WIMBLEDON

Yellow Shirts Blue Shorts Yellow Socks

CHANGES

1 Dave BEASANT

2 Peter BROWN

3 Steve JONES

4 Steve GALLIERS

5 Mick SMITH

6 Tommy CUNNINGHAM

7 Steve KETTERIDGE

8 Paul DENNY

9 John LESLIE

10 Alan CORK

11 Dave HUBBICK

12

TODAY'S MITRE MATCH BALL HAS BEEN
KINDLY DONATED BY JIMMY ROSE

WIGAN

Red Shirts, Red Shorts, Red Socks

CHANGES

1 Bob WARD

2 Dave FRETWELL

3 Steve McADAM

4 George URQUHART

5 Colin METHVEN

6 Alex CRIBLEY

7 David McMULLEN

8 Billy URQUHART

9 Peter HOUGHTON

10 Bobby HUTCHINSON

11 Frank CORRIGAN

12 Mike QUINN

OFFICIALS

REFEREE: A GUNN

LINESMEN: D J AXCELL (Red Flag)
D G MITCHAM (Yellow Flag)



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Manley*

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NELSON'S

Wednesday, 24th December, 1980
CHRISTMAS EVE PARTY DISCO
8.00 p.m. till Midnight
Admission Ticket Only £3.00

TONIGHT'S LINE-UP

WIMBLEDON

Yellow, Blue, Yellow

Dave BEASANT

Steve JONES

Gary ARMSTRONG

Paul DENNY

Mick SMITH

Tommy CUNNINGHAM

Steve KETTERIDGE

Glyn HODGES

John LESLIE

Alan CORK

Wally DOWNES

WIGAN

All Red Strip

Bob WARD

John CURTIS

Steve McADAM

Alec CRIBLEY

Colin METHVEN

Larry LLOYD

George URQUHART

Jeff WRIGHT

Mick QUINN

Peter HOUGHTON

Frank CORRIGAN

OFFICIALS

Referee: A GUNN (Sussex)

Linesmen: D J AXCELL (Red Flag)
D G MITCHAM (Yellow Flag)

NELSONS

Wednesday, 1st April — at 8.00 p.m.

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Members £1.00

Guests £1.50

BALL DONOR

TODAY'S 'MITRE' MATCH BALL HAS
BEEN KINDLY DONATED BY
JIMMY ROSE

OUR NEXT HOME FIXTURE

Saturday 4th April, 1981,
kick-off 3.00 p.m.
DONCASTER ROVERS
Football League Division Four

PLOUGH LANE TALK

It is with great reluctance, as we have stated in the past, that we have to offer you the programme produced for the game originally arranged for the 20th December last year. It is purely a question of economics, the cost of producing these glossy coloured programmes is so high that it is not financially possible to throw them away. Please understand our predicament and accept our apologies, whilst we for our part thank you for supporting us.

Though it is only three months ago since we were originally due to meet this evenings' guests Wigan Athletic, you will see from the programme that there have been dramatic changes at both Clubs. Here at Plough Lane we have a new Chairman, Board of Directors and Manager whilst at Wigan they have a new manager in Larry Lloyd, formerly of Liverpool and Notts Forest.

So far as the League placings then and now are concerned, Wimbledon, at the time of writing these notes, have risen from 9th place to 7th whilst Wigan have gone from 19th place to 11th. It is in the number of points gained where the Dons have done best gaining 19 points from 13 games whereas our visitors have won 18 points from 16 games.

Our successful run has taken us to the brink of the promotion race and next Saturday's fixture against Doncaster Rovers will be a vital one. We expect quite a few Doncaster supporters to come to cheer their team so we hope that there will also be a lot of Wimbledon supporters here to give our lads plenty of vocal support.

FIXTURE RE-ARRANGEMENTS

For varying reasons we have had to re-arrange several Midweek League and South East Counties League fixtures. The amendments are as follows:-

MIDWEEK LEAGUE

Thurs. 9th April — Brighton & Hove — Home.
Thurs. 23rd April — Cambridge Utd. — Home.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE

Saturday 11th April — Oxford Utd. — Home.
Monday 4th May — Bristol Rovers — Home.
The Brighton and Bristol Rovers fixtures will be a 2.00 p.m. kick-off.

"PLAYER OF THE MONTH" AND "PLAYER OF THE YEAR"

Voting forms for "Player of the Month"

should be handed in today. Don't let Bill Atkins down by not handing yours in, he only gives the editor "stick" when you do.

The "Player of the Year" Dance and presentation is to be held in 'Nelsons' on Monday, 20th April (Home to Torquay Utd.), from 8.00 p.m. The cost of a ticket is £2.50 and this price includes a buffet. We regret that the numbers will be limited so buy your ticket early — like today! Tickets are available from:- Miss S. Lowne, 326, Coombe Lane, West Wimbledon, S.W.20. Please include correct remittance and a S.A.E. The winner of the "Player of the Year" award will be announced on the night.

Voting forms are available around the ground, in the bars, Club Shop and Club Office. Ballot boxes are located in the bars, Club Shop and Club Office.

SUSPENDED

Last Thursday Steve Galliers received a 4-match suspension which means that he will not be available for selection until the game against Bournemouth on the 18th April.

"THE NEW STANDARD" 5-A-SIDES

The above tournament takes place at Wembley Arena on Wednesday, 22nd April, kick-off 7.00 p.m. A Wimbledon team has been entered. The Club is purchasing £2, £3, £4 and £5 tickets which will be on sale at the Club Shop for the next home game. It is also intended to run a coach/coaches to Wembley — cost £1.50 return. Book your ticket and your coach seat today. A £1 deposit for both coach and tickets will be necessary.

"AWAY" TRAVEL

The response for a "Special" train to Bournemouth has not reached the numbers required. Travel to this game therefore will be by coach and by normal service trains. A number of people have already put their names down to travel but we would like them to re-book and confirm whether they wish to go by coach or train.

Coaches will leave Ground at 11.00 a.m.
Fare: Members £4.00 Non-Members £4.50.

Pokesdown is the nearest B.R. Station to A.F.C. Bournemouth's ground.

We are also taking bookings this evening for Northampton on the 11th April, 12.30 p.m.
Coach — Members £2.70 Non-Members £3.20.
Coaches leave ground